

Historic, Archive Document

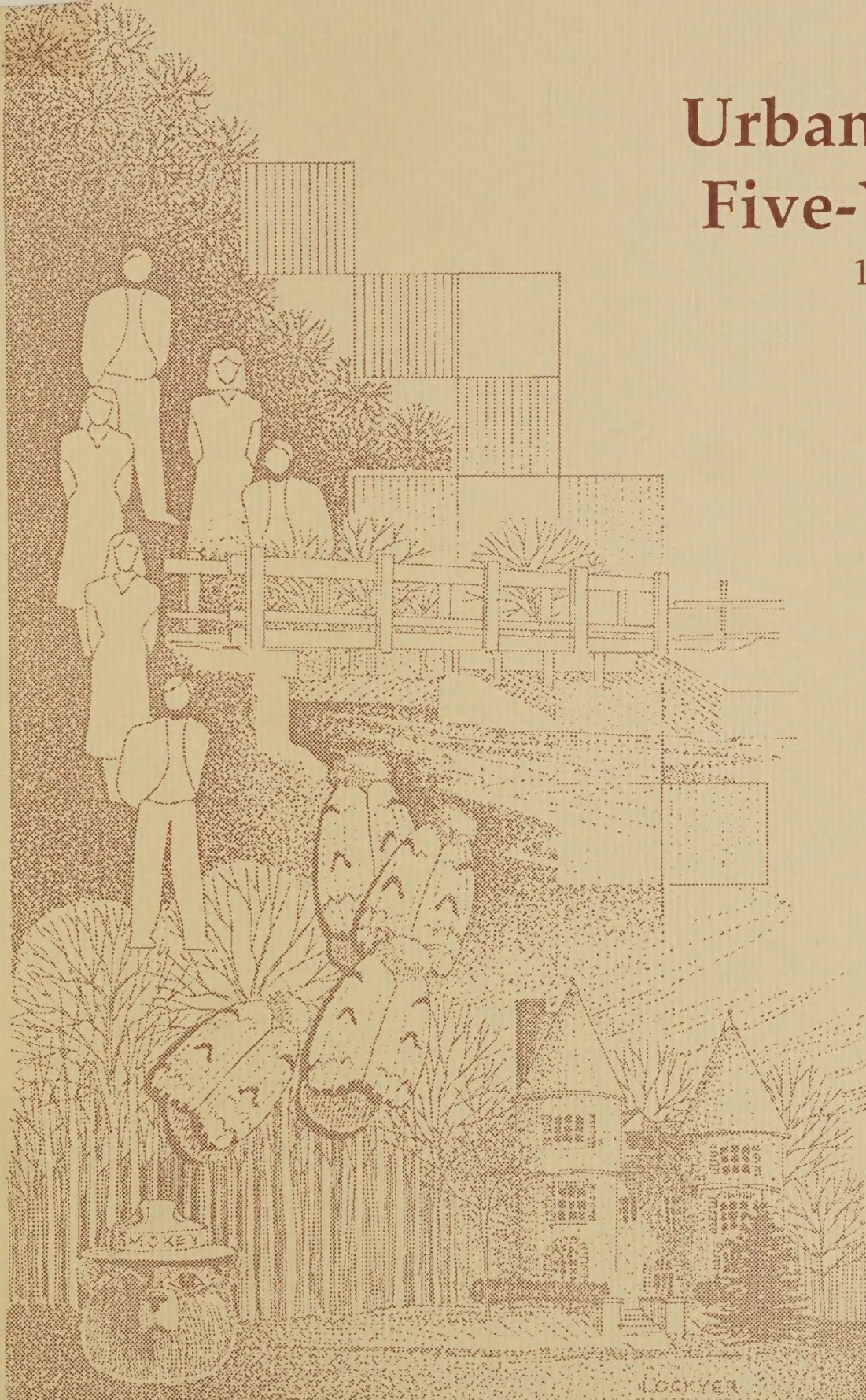
Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Reserve
aSB436
.U72

Eastern
Area

Urban Forestry Five-Year Plan

1990 through 1994



USDA
Forest Service



NORTHEASTERN AREA
State and Private Forestry

AD-33 Bookplate
(1-48)

NATIONAL

**A
G
R
I
C
U
L
T
U
R
A
L**



LIBRARY

January 10, 1990

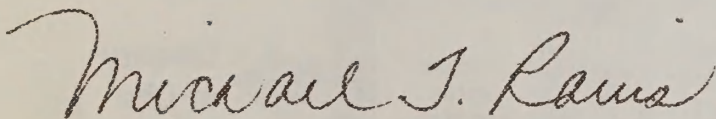
Dear Reader:

The following Five-Year Plan outlines the direction for the Northeastern Area Urban Forestry Program. It is the guide for our federal role in urban forestry from 1990 through 1994. Our major emphasis is to maximize the benefits of the urban forest--clear water, clean air, diverse recreation, better wildlife habitat, and rich vegetation--by encouraging the comprehensive professional management of all forest resources in a community.

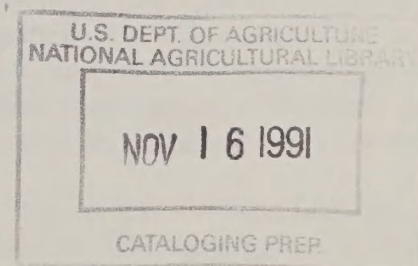
Two groups representing a broad range of skills at the federal, state and local levels assisted in the development of the plan. The Steering Committee provided guidance throughout the development of the program direction, goals, and objectives. The Program Development Team recommended actions to achieve the goals of the plan. A list of the members that participated in this process is in the Appendix for your reference.

With this comprehensive program, we believe we have the opportunity to enhance the quality of life for urban residents throughout the Northeast and Midwest. We want to join with others who shape the urban forest--engineers, natural resource managers, planners, congressional leaders, educators, citizens, and others--to meet this difficult challenge.

We encourage you to read the Urban Forestry Plan. If we act collectively to manage the urban forest, we can create communities that are pleasant, healthy, and inviting places to live. Together, we can influence the actions necessary to make this happen. We invite you to join us.



Michael T. Rains
Area Director





Overview

Forest Service Responsibility

The 1978 Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act (PL 95-313) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture, through the USDA-Forest Service, to provide forestry leadership in the United States. Section 6 specifies that financial, technical and related assistance will be made available to State Foresters or equivalent state officials to practice urban forestry.

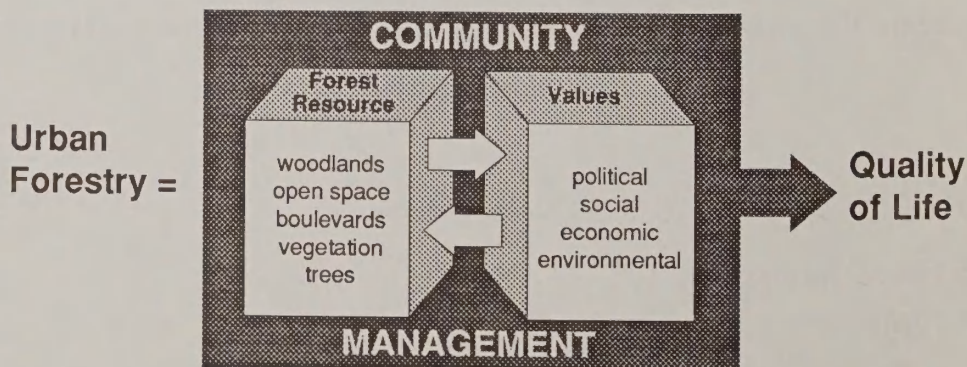
The intent of this plan is to provide a framework and direction for the Northeastern Area's Urban Forestry Program. It enables the Northeastern Area to 1) respond to the environmental issues facing the urban communities of the Northeast and Midwest and 2) provide the most effective and efficient use of our resources to assist the States with the implementation of urban forestry programs.

Northeastern Area Responsibility

The responsibility of the Area is to develop and implement an urban forestry program to meet the current and projected needs of urban communities. Since nearly half of the nation's population resides in the 20 northeastern and midwestern states comprising the Northeastern Area, it is imperative that the Area provide the leadership and encourage States, local governmental entities, and private parties to use appropriate forest resource management practices. Such practices should include demonstration projects that provide dynamic examples of urban forestry leadership.

Urban Forestry

Urban forestry is the planning for and management of a community's forest resources to enhance the quality of life. The process integrates the economic, environmental, political, and social values of the community to develop a comprehensive management plan for the urban forest. The following diagram illustrates this process.



A community is an area of human settlement ranging from rural to metropolitan regions. The urban forest includes the vegetation, open space, and related natural resources of the area.

New Opportunities in Urban Forestry

Metropolitan Areas

Traditionally, urban forestry efforts have focused on the management of city trees and on information programs to make the public more aware of the benefits of urban forestry and forestry in general.

Forest resources in metropolitan areas when properly managed can substantially improve the quality of city life. Street and shade trees, river corridors, old right-of-ways, wetlands, and abandoned land are examples of management opportunities that are often overlooked by local government agencies. Such areas can become beautiful and functional elements of the urban landscape. They also can provide much needed recreational opportunities. A comprehensive urban forestry program should address all the forest resources in the urban community along with broader issues such as air quality and global climate change.

Developing Communities

Communities in the path of urbanization have conditions and management opportunities that differ significantly from older established urban areas. The forest resources on both public and private land are often still intact but threatened due to scheduled development. The general public realizes benefits from these lands, such as improved water and air quality, temperature modifications, visual quality, and recreational opportunities. Forest resources and open space also play a significant role in creating the sense of place and rural character that contribute to the quality of life in a community.

Opportunities do exist to protect and conserve the forest resources and to provide greater access to open spaces and recreational lands through appropriate land use regulations. Prior to development, the significance of a community's existing forest resources should be established and the values associated with these resources must be fully considered in subsequent land use decisions.

The View in Five Years

During the next five years, the Northeastern Area will stress a multiple-use approach to forest resource management in all urban communities. The program will strive to achieve a balance between our traditional focus in cities and towns, and a new emphasis in suburban areas where forest resources are scheduled for development. Working through the State Foresters, our primary contacts will be municipal and county government officials, tree care specialists, education professionals, environmental groups, elected officials, and homeowner and property associations.

To do this, two broad goals and six objectives have been identified. They will provide the framework for our Urban Forestry program for fiscal years 1990 through 1994.

Goals, Objectives, and Tasks

Goal A

Public Awareness

Stimulate a resource conservation ethic within the urban community by promoting the benefits of urban forest resource planning and management.

- Objective 1** Inform decision makers about the benefits of urban forest resource planning and management.

Tasks

Develop a guide to assist States in working with the media.

Develop media strategies to insure that information reaches targeted audiences (regional and town planners, municipal officials, congressional leaders, state natural resource officials, Forest Service leaders).

Prepare prospectus for media contracts.

Coordinate an Urban Forestry Congressional caucus for the Northeast and Midwest.

Sponsor and publicize regional urban forestry conferences with a multiple-use management theme.

Encourage the State Urban Forestry Coordinators to become a formal organization that can effectively advocate urban forestry.

Develop and present exhibits on multiple-use management of the urban forest for non-forestry audiences (e.g., American Planning Association).

- Objective 2** Implement an urban forestry awareness program through existing educational systems to inform students about urban forest management.

Tasks

Inventory the existing environmental education programs. Publish a booklet of the best models.

Co-sponsor, with a regional or national educational association, regional teacher workshops on urban forest management.

Encourage universities to develop comprehensive forest resource management curricula for urban forestry.

Objective 3 Develop and implement a network among practitioners and researchers to enhance communication.

Tasks

Survey States to identify and prioritize research needs in comprehensive urban forest management.

Compile a reference library of current practical research publications.

Transfer research information to clients in a practical and understandable format.

Objective 4 Promote the establishment of state and local councils that can serve as advocacy groups for urban forestry issues. Encourage councils that are composed of individuals representing a diversity of interests and disciplines.

Tasks

Develop and distribute guidelines for establishing advocacy groups.

Encourage State Forester annual meeting presentations on the effectiveness of state and local advocacy groups.

Compile, publish, and distribute a directory of urban forestry advocacy groups, including their mission statements, key accomplishments, and fundraising methods.

Develop training programs on how to be an effective urban forestry council member.

Goal B
Multiple-Use Management

Encourage the multiple-use management of the urban forest to achieve a balance with land development, social and environmental values, and political realities.

Objective 1 Promote partnership-sponsored projects in each state that demonstrate the benefits of integrating forest resource values with community development planning. The projects should reflect regional differences and needs.

Tasks

Inventory and disseminate examples of incentives that encourage protection and conservation of forest resources during the development process.

Compile and distribute examples of development designs that conserve and protect the forest resource.

Develop a handbook of resource information technology and its application to comprehensive management of the urban forest.

Identify and disseminate information about municipalities that have incorporated ecological planning and management principles into the master plans for their communities.

Develop a highly visible recognition program for state and local projects that demonstrate the multiple benefits of the urban forest.

Objective 2 Help develop urban forestry programs in each State that demonstrate a multiple-use approach to urban forest management.

Tasks

Provide incentives to encourage States to hire full-time Urban Forestry Coordinators.

Compile and distribute examples of innovative programs that demonstrate a multiple-use approach to urban forest management from the neighborhood to the state level.

Distribute success stories of interdisciplinary and interagency cooperative efforts in natural resource management.

Encourage States to provide broad training in the planning concepts and the comprehensive management of the urban forest.

Note: This plan represents a program that is needed. A program of work will be developed each year to implement the portion of the plan that can be addressed based on all available resources.

Estimated Urban Forestry Program Budget Needs¹

		1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	Total
	Objective	...Dollars in millions...					
Goal A Public Awareness	1. Information	0.8	3.0	4.0	2.0	1.0	10.8
	2. Education	0.6	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	8.6
	3. Research Network	0.3	1.5	1.5	1.0	0.5	4.8
	4. Advocacy Groups	0.3	1.5	1.5	1.0	0.5	4.8
	Sub-total	2.0	8.0	10.0	6.0	3.0	29.0
Goal B Multiple-use Management	1. Partnership Projects	4.0	12.0	12.0	8.0	8.0	44.0
	2. Program Development	2.0	10.0	8.0	6.0	6.0	32.0
	Sub-total	6.0	22.0	20.0	14.0	14.0	76.0
Total		8.0	30.0	30.0	20.0	17.0	105.0

Note: These figures are based on program needs. The actual Northeastern Area Urban Forestry Program will depend on available resources.

¹Includes technical assistance and cost share funds to States.

Appendix

Steering Committee

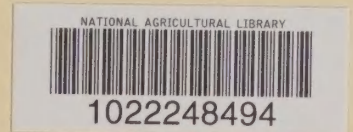
Robert Breazeale	Staff Assistant to Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry USDA Forest Service Washington, DC
Fred Deneke	Consultant American Forestry Association Washington, DC
Allan Mickelson	State Forester Illinois Department of Conservation Springfield, Illinois
Michael Rains	Director, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry USDA Forest Service Radnor, Pennsylvania
Jim Roberts	State Forester Maryland Department of Natural Resources Annapolis, Maryland

Program Development Team

Charles Boster	Executive Director Northeast Connecticut Council of Government Brooklyn, Connecticut
George Gilmore	Associate Director of Technical Services Maryland Department of Natural Resources Annapolis, Maryland
Don Greene	National Urban Forestry Coordinator USDA Forest Service Washington, DC
Robert Gutowski	Curator for Interpretation Morris Arboretum, University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Norman LaCasse	Chief, Cooperative Forestry Section Bureau of Forestry Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
Edith Makra	Assistant to the Mayor Office of the Mayor Chicago, Illinois
Christina Petersen	Extension Forestry Specialist Cooperative Extension, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Massachusetts

Michael Reichenbach State Urban Forestry Coordinator
Illinois Department of Conservation
Springfield, Illinois

Mel Reid Equal Opportunity Manager
National Park Service
Washington, DC



James Rocca Urban Forestry Coordinator
Missouri Department of Conservation
Jefferson City, Missouri

Robert Skiera City Forester
City of Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Jack Stevens Deputy Project Leader
Northeastern Forest Experiment Station
USDA Forest Service
Syracuse, New York

David Weiss Staff Director
General Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC

For additional information

Northeastern Area
State and Private Forestry

5 Radnor Corporate Center
100 Matsonford Road
Suite 200
Radnor, PA 19087

(215) 975-4139

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive 'W' or similar character.

* NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY



1022248494